

From: L Palmer
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/27/01 12:41pm
Subject: Oppose Microsoft private suit settlement

Dear Department of Justice,

I would like to express my opposition to Microsoft's proposal to settle lawsuits for abusing monopoly power, by providing computers, software and other resources to poor schools.

This is a breathtakingly self-serving proposal on Microsoft's part. It will further Microsoft's competitive advantage in schools -- one arena where its main competitor in the consumer market, Apple, has considerable business. Many teachers prefer Apple products, for their ease of use, longer life-span, and much lower long-term support costs; and I understand that they have expressed grave doubts about this proposal.

It seems peculiar, to say the least, to allow a company to settle complaints of monopoly power, by giving it a golden opportunity to extend its monopoly.

Sincerely,

Linda Palmer